# Homes for Heroes

The program provides extraordinary savings to local heroes who provide services to their community every day. A percentage of the homes will be marketed to disabled veterans and their families or surviving families of soldiers killed in action.

# Homes For Our Troops www.homesforourtroops.org

The mission is to build specifically adapted homes for severely disabled soldiers and their families. The organization is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit which uses monetary and building material donations to help families of disabled American heroes in addition to soliciting trades people to donate their labor.

# Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund www.semperfifund.org

A 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization which provides financial assistance to wounded heroes and their families. This assistance helps to defray costs related to hospitalization, rehabilitation, purchase of specialized equipment, transportation and home modifications.

### Economic Stimulus Package

www.**irs**.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=179203,00.html

This section is for people receiving benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for disability, pension or survivors' benefits. The package contains a special provision allowing certain veterans' benefits to count towards the qualifying income requirement of \$3,000.

# Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund www.fallenheroesfund.org

The Fund provides unrestricted grants to the families of military personnel who have given their lives in defense of our country. The 501 (c)(3) Fund is supported entirely by donations – 100% of contributions from the public for this effort go to support military families.

# Marine Corps Family Team Building www.mccsmiramar.com/MCFTB INDEX.html

The mission is to prepare families through educational resources and services to foster personal growth so that they can successfully meet the challenges of the military lifestyle.

# Military Child Education Coalition www.militarychild.org

A 501 (c)(3) non-profit, world-wide organization that identifies the challenges that face the highly mobile military child, increases awareness of these challenges and initiates and implements programs to meet the challenges.

# Military Connection www.militaryconnection.com

The Connection provides information on government jobs, military schools, military loans and military pay. The resource directory features information on military education and benefits including the GI Bill, employment opportunities, military job postings, pay charts and salary calculators.

# Military Family Resources www.militaryfamily.com

America's number one source for family readiness, relocation, transition and support issues.

# Military HOMEFRONT www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil

The official Department of Defense web site for reliable Quality of Life information designed to help troops and their families, leaders and service providers.

# The Military Spouse Resource Center www.milspouse.org

The Center is designed to assist the spouses of U.S. military personnel and is jointly sponsored by the Department of Defense and the Department of Labor. It provides easy access to information, resources and opportunities related to education, training and employment for military spouses.

### MyArmyBenefits

www.myarmybenefits.us.army.mil

The website serves the Regular Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, family members, and retirees. The site also allows you to find your eligibility, research the details of your benefits, and find locations where benefits services are provided.

# National Military Family Association www.nmfa.org

The Association educates and provides services to military families concerning their rights and benefits. The site also features information on Operation Purple, a free summer camp in partnership with the Sierra Club that brings together youth who are experiencing deployment of a parent.

# Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

The Society is a non-profit charitable organization which provides budget counseling, as well as interest free loans and grants for emergencies.

### Operation Bigs

www.bbbs.org/site/c.drLRK2PELsF/b.1635251/k.5C37/SchoolBased Mentoring.htm

A mentoring program for children of military families where volunteers, which include on-base marines, personnel and community members, spend one-on-one quality time with children at their schools and on-site at Camp Pendleton.

# Operation Gratidute www.opgratitude.com

Operation Gratitude seek to lift troops' morale by sending care packages to service members overseas with food, toiletries, entertainment items and personal letters of appreciation, all wrapped with good wishes of love and support. Operation Gratitude is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, all-volunteer corporation, funded entirely by private donations.

### Operation Hero Miles

www.heromiles.org

Operation Hero Miles allows troops stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan to fly home on leave for free. It gives family members of wounded servicemen free plane tickets to visit their loved ones recovering at military hospitals. It also gives ordinary citizens an opportunity to help our troops by donating their unused frequent flyer miles for troops and their families.

# Operation Homefront www.operationhomefront.net

Operation Homefront is a non-profit organization that focuses on helping spouses left behind during deployments. It provides discounted or free assistance with car, computer, household repairs and local moves.

# Operation Military Kids www.operationmilitarykids.org

A collaborative effort of the United States Army which supports the children and youth impacted by deployment. To date, the program has reached 65,000 military youth and provided information to 7200 community members across the United States

# Our Military Kids www.ourmilitarykids.org

Provides support to the children of deployed and severely injured National Guard and Military Reserve personnel through grants which help children better cope with challenges arising during a parent's deployment or injury recovery.

# Kids Serve 2 www.saluteourservices.org

A program which provides resources that support military children – because when parents serve in the military, their Kids Serve 2. The mission is to honor, support and thank military children by fostering awareness and appreciation about the sacrifices and challenges they face.

### Scholarship Finder

http://aid.military.com/scholarship

Find millions of dollars in scholarships and grants exclusively for the military community. Learn about military education benefits, great schools and programs that can help reach your goals.

# Silver Star Families of America www.silverstarfamilies.org

Dedicated to supporting and assisting the wounded and their families of ALL Branches of Service and ALL Wars. The program recognizes those that sacrificed - Purple Heart recipients, victims of friendly fire, those suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Agent Orange and Gulf War syndrome.

### Transition Assistance Online

Both prior and current service members can find the resources

needed to transition from military service to a civilian career. It's a one stop shop - from posting jobs, searching resumes, exploring business to learning about educational opportunities.

### ThanksUSA

www.**thanksusa**.org

ThanksUSA is a non-partisan, charitable effort to mobilize Americans of all ages to "thank" the men and women of the United States Armed Forces by providing college, technical and vocational school scholarships for their children and spouses.

# Tragedy Assistant Program for Survivors (TAPS)

www.**taps**.org

TAPS is a national non-profit organization serving families, friends and military service members who have been affected by a death. They offer peer support, crisis response and intervention, grief care and counseling resources, casework assistance, long-term survivor wellness and outreach.

#### Tricare

www.**tricare**.mil

A world-class military health system that supports the military mission by fostering, protecting, sustaining and restoring health.

# United States Air Force www.airforce.com/life/officer/family.php

United States Army

www.soc.mil/Fam\_Support/Fam\_support.htm

United States Coast Guard www.uscg.mil

# United States Department of Veterans Affairs www.va.gov

United States Marine Corps www.usmc-mccs.org

United States Navy www.navy.mil

### United Through Reading

www.read2kids.org/getinvolved.htm

d A non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization which facilitates supportive

relationships for children through families and friends reading aloud with them. The program focuses on separated military families by having a deployed parent read aloud via DVD which connects the child in a special way.

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### America Supports You

www.americasupportsyou.mil

A Department of Defense program that connects individuals, organizations and companies to homefront groups offering support to the military community and their families including writing letters and e-mails, sending care packages, offering scholarships and helping the wounded.

### **Bob Woodruff Family Foundation** www.**bobwoodrufffamilyfund**.org

The Foundation raises public awareness about traumatic brain injury and combat stress by working with private industry and government to develop excellence in prevention, diagnosis, treatment, support and resources. It ensures that soldiers and their families have access to a lifetime of treatment, education and employment opportunities to help them reintegrate back into their communities.

### California National Guard www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies

A Family Assistance Network has been established to provide military families with rosters of civilian, government and military agencies that can help deal with issues related to active duty.

### Cell Phones for Soldiers www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com

Cell Phones for Soldiers is a non-profit organization which turns This program has a close working relationship with the old donated cell phones into prepaid calling cards. "Americans will replace 130 million cell phones this year and most people and welcomes the children of military families to participate don't realize that the small sacrifice of donating their unwanted in their youth development programs which provide incredible phones can have a tremendous benefit for a worthy cause that benefits our Soldiers," says Mike Newman, vice president of ReCellular.

### Center for Women Veterans

www.va.gov/womenvet

The mission is to review Veteran Affair programs and services for women veterans, and assure that women veterans receive benefits and services without discrimination.

#### Defenders of Freedom – CA www.defendersoffreedom-ca.us

A 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization which raises money to support troops who are currently deployed around the world. The organization unites family members, raises community involvement, supports wounded soldiers, sends care packages and provides welcome home celebrations at airports.

### Fallen Patriot Fund

www.fallenpatriotfund.org

Dedicated to ensuring that casualty families have support resources available such as death benefits, pension funds, child support, military housing and store access.

### Fisher House Program

www.fisherhouse.org

A private-public partnership that supports America's military by providing "a home away from home" for family members whose loved one has been hospitalized. There are currently 32 houses on every major military medical center and several VA medical centers. The program supports families as they work through incredible challenges.

### Friday Night Live www.**fridaynightlive**.org

California National Guard Drug Demand Reduction program mentoring opportunities.

### Give an Hour - Give Help/Give Hope www.**aiveanhour**.ora

A non-profit network of volunteer mental health professionals who provide free therapy (both in person and via telephone) to service members and their families affected by operations in Afghanistan and Irag.

# **We**Support

Here in California, Arnold and I are humbled and honored to support our brave military families. I've traveled statewide spending time with husbands, wives, parents, children and family members who also serve while these brave soldiers fight daily for our freedom. Through partnering with incredible organizations, we have distributed 40,000 pre-paid phone calling cards, sent thousands of packages, established a military family website, visited with soldiers at military bases and hospitals, partnered to raise public awareness about traumatic brain injury and launched programs which provide mentors and counseling support. I've learned personally of the hardships of deployment and re-entry into civilian life - I've seen how a soldier's family copes with an 18-month deployment, the unique challenges that they overcome in accessing resources to help compensate for loss of income and how their children also cope with the absence of a parent. And that's why I'm so pleased to provide this listing of resources which I hope will let our military families know that WE Support them and are constantly amazed and inspired by their courage, strength and determination.





# WeSupport | Military Families



Support Services & Resources